

Meadow Brook Festival opens season

Conductor Michael Tilson Thomas will be on the podium for the opening concert of the 16th Meadow Brook Festival in Baldwin Pavilion at Oakland University.

The opening concert on Thursday, June 21, will mark Thomas' third appearance at the music festival. Thomas will conduct again on Saturday, June 23. Pianist Ilana Vered will be the

guest artist for the opening concert, which will include works by Berlioz, Rachmaninoff, Satie and Respighi.

The Saturday concert, the Mahler Symphony No. 3 in D, will feature alto Florence Quiver, the women of the Kenneth Jewell Choral, Detroit Lutheran Singers and the Children's Choir of Christ Church, Episcopal of Grosse Pointe.

Sixteen Ehrlich, will conduct on Thursday, June 28 and Saturday, June 30. The Thursday concert will feature violinist Mark Piskunov, on Saturday, concertmaster Gordon Staples and Wesley Jacobs, bass tuba with the symphony, will be featured.

The Thursday program will include two works by Sibelius and "The Rite of Spring" by Stravinsky. The Saturday program with Jacobs and Staples is the Beethoven Symphony No. 2 in D, Op. 36, Vaughan Williams' Concerto for Bass Tuba and Orchestra, and Strauss' "Ein Heldenleben," Op. 40.

The two conductors will be Gennady Rozhdestvensky and Leonard Slatkin. Russian-born Rozhdestvensky is currently music director of the BBC Symphony and the Bolshoi Theater Orchestra. Slatkin, son of conductor and musician Felix Slatkin, is artistic director of Minnesota Orchestra's summer concert series. He will assume the position of music director of the St. Louis Symphony next September.

In addition to Ehrlich, conductors who are returning to Meadow Brook Festival are Kazuhiro Koizumi and Klaus Tennstedt.

In August, Neville Marriner, appointed artistic director of the Meadow Brook Festival last year, will conduct five concerts. Marriner, one of the most recorded conductors of this century, has served as music director of the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, artistic director of the South Bank Festival in London and helped found the chamber group St. Martin-in-the-Fields. In September, he will assume the position of music director of the Minnesota Orchestra.

Marriner will conduct one of two Tuesday evening performances of the Detroit Symphony Chamber Orchestra. Both are scheduled in mid-August.

During the seventh week of the nine-week summer series, the Eliot Feld Ballet Company will take over the stage. Their programs will open Aug. 2 and continue through that weekend.

There will also be a Friday jazz series, a Sunday pops series and a new Wednesday evening variety series featuring popular entertainers. A morning children's concert series is scheduled and the mid-week open rehearsal series will continue to be available.

For program and ticket information, call the festival box office, 377-2010.



Ilana Vered, pianist, will be the guest soloist for the opening Meadow Brook Festival concert June 21.

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